

The Augusta Coin Club Meets on the 3rd Thursday of the Month at the Sunrise Grill, 3830 Washington Rd. Martinez

The Augusta Coin Club since 1959

Pres. Steven Nix
1st V.P. Glenn Sanders
2nd V.P. Howard Black
Sec. John T. Attaway
Treas. Stacey Plooster
Sgt. in Arms: Bryan Hoyt
and Joe Bert



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Auction: Glenn Sanders
Bids Recorder, David Chism

Volume 17, Number 12

THE AUGUSTA COIN CLUB MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

December, 2017

Our Next Meeting is Thurs, Dec. 21, starting at 6:00 PM with light snacks being offered

Show Successful financially! Elections for Officers, Dec. 21

Club Meeting Calendar for 2017

Jan. 19	May 18	Sep. 21
Feb. 16	June 15	Oct. 19
Mar. 16	July 20	Nov. 16
Apr. 20	Aug. 17	Dec. 21

The larger Room at the Columbia County Expo Center didn't make the show appear less crowded. The public turnout just wasn't that strong.



New member YN Simon Bence seen browsing at one of the tables during the height of the Show on Saturday, Nov. 18.

Despite a somewhat lackluster show, our club bourse chairman David Chism has informed the newsletter editor that we have already booked fifty dealers' tables for our annual spring show scheduled for May, 2018. According to Treasurer Stacey Plooster's records, we netted a total of \$1,364.72 which included a plus gain of roughly \$150 from the Concession stand, \$501 net from raffle sales.

Winners of the Raffle drawings were:

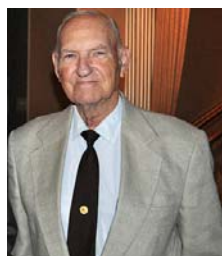
1st prize: Bud Hotwood, 1/10 oz gold eagle
2nd prize: Linda Beck, MS-63 Morgan dollar
3rd Prize: Mike Erm. Silver proof set
4th prize: Glenn Sanders, Silver Eagle
5th prize: Nick Almeter, Franklin half
Postcard Prize, Jim & Helen Barry, 2017 Silver Eagle

"The Magnificent Seven"

By Arno Safran - dedicated to the late Gerald Kochel



A Complete date set of the US Classic Head large Cent Series
Struck from 1808 thru 1814
[Enlarge to at least 200% to view coin dates clearly.]



Gerald Kochel

Over three and a half decades ago--the writer--still a novice collector--attended a major New Jersey state coin show and recalls being fascinated by a special large-cent exhibit displayed by Gerald Kochel entitled "The Magnificent Seven". The "seven" in the title referred to the complete date set of US Classic Head cents struck from 1808 thru 1814.

During the period that these coins were made, America and England were again having difficulties which would eventually result in "The War of 1812". At the time, the US Mint received its copper planchets (*i.e., coin blanks*) from Birmingham, England. With hostilities worsening, the shipments of the planchets were often delayed and the quality of the copper received instead of looking chocolate-brown was sub-par, sometimes appearing charcoal black from being stored in damp areas of the ship's hull. This explains why so many Classic Head large cents survivors are discolored, porous or corroded. Gerald Kochel's set of seven however, were all magnificent.

(Continued on page 2, column 1)

The Magnificent Seven

(Continued from page 1, column 1)

Coming from Lancaster, PA, a town virtually equidistant to Harrisburg, Philadelphia and especially Baltimore where the largest regional coin shows were held, Gerry could be found either at one of the exhibit tables, browsing the bourse or giving programs on various topics including “the Magnificent Seven”. It was at one of the many major NJ shows held during the mid 1980s sponsored by the Garden State Numismatic Association, (GSNA) or the Greater Eastern Numismatic Association, (GENA) that the author met Gerry and complimented him on his Classic Head cent exhibit. Besides being cordial and self-confident--because he had studied numismatics carefully over the years--he also had a wry sense of humor and was extremely likable. As a result of viewing Gerry’s exhibit of “The Magnificent Seven” Classic Head large cents, the author decided to try to assemble a similar set as close to the quality as Gerry’s as he could afford.



An 1808 Classic Head Large Cent, S-279, R1 grading VF-30
[Enlarge page to 200% in order to view details of coin more clearly]

In 1807, John Reich’s was hired as Asst. Chief Engraver to Robert Scot and was asked to redesign all our US coins. The writer particularly admired the new cent design type known as the Classic Head (or Turban head) first struck in 1808. Unlike the earlier large cent types in which a single date could have over 25 to 40 die varieties, the Classic Head cent run (1808-1814) contained just 29 varieties, listed as S-277 thru S-295 by Dr. William Sheldon author of “Penny Whimsy”, one of the more popular earlier books on die varieties of early large cents. Of these, the most recognizable are the two overdates, 1810/9 & 1811/10, the 1814, plain 4 and Crosslet 4 in the date, along with the slightly less observable 1812 large date vs. small date varieties, all currently listed in the *Red Book*. Based on the reported yearly mintages, the **even numbered dates** have long been regarded as the more common compared with the **odd numbered dates**. The reported mintage for the 1808 shown above was 1,007,000 and is considered a common date.



An 1809 Classic Head Large Cent, S-280, R2 grading Fine-12
[Enlarge page to 200% in order to view details of coin more clearly]

The 1809 cent has a reported mintage of just 222,867 and is considered along with the 1811/10 a “Key date”.

With just one known die variety the 1809 is usually found in the lower circulated grades similar to the coin seen on column one.



An 1810/9 Classic Head Large Cent, S-281, R1 grading VF-20
[Enlarge page to 200% in order to view details of coin more clearly]

The reported mintage for the 1810 cent was 1,458,500, the most for any date in the short series. The 1810/9, shown is considered fairly common over-date and is the first of five known die varieties of that year.



An 1810 Classic Head Large Cent, S-283, R2 grading VF-25
[Enlarge page to 200% in order to view details of coin more clearly]

The 1810 normal date S-283 variety was the first Classic Head large cent the author obtained. It was acquired at a regular meeting of the Watchung Hills Coin Club, NJ in Nov. 1989 from the late Dave Wilson, a dealer who was respected for his accurate grading skills and honest business practices. While a tad less sharp than the 1808 example shown near the top of the previous column, the coin displays nice chocolate-brown color.



An 1811/10 Classic Head Large Cent, S-286, R3 grading VG-10
[Enlarge page to 200% in order to view details of coin more clearly]

With a reported mintage of just 218,025, both the 1811/10 over-date and 1811 normal date are tough coins to find. The 1811/10 issue was acquired in March of 1993 at the Suburban Washington/ Baltimore show from another highly respected dealer, the late Don Valenziano. This is a tough coin to locate, especially grading Fine or better and can be very expensive. Many specimens appear charcoal gray and look scudzy, so finding one with attractive coppery color is a real challenge to the collector. The VG-10 example shown is one such example and was acquired at an affordable price. The variety has another interesting characteristic. On the reverse, just under the left side of the letter E in ONE is a tiny horizontal bar. The same reverse die was used for the 1812, large date S-291 variety.

(Continued on page 3, column 1)

The Magnificent Seven

(Continued from the previous page))



An 1811 Classic Head Large Cent, S-287, R3 grading VF-35
[Enlarge page to 200% in order to view details of coin more clearly]

The 1811 normal date enjoyed the greater portion of the recorded mintage of 218,085, perhaps three times the amount believed for the 1811/10 overdate according to Sheldon, but it is still one of the scarcer dates of the series. Like the overdate, the 1811 normal date is found more often than not with darker coppery color sometimes referred to as charcoal gray. Many are either corroded or porous. The specimen shown--while not as chocolate-brown as the others--is nonetheless problem-free with just enough coppery tone to appear very attractive. The VF-35 grade also shows sharper detail than the previous examples illustrated. The coin was acquired at the East Coast Expo held in the NJ Meadowlands near Giants Football Stadium in September, 1994 and was the most expensive of the preceding dates due to its scarcity and higher grade.



An 1812 Classic Head Cent, S-290, R1 Lg. Dt. Certified AU-50
[Enlarge page to 200% in order to view details of coin more clearly]

The 1812 Classic Head large cent had a reported mintage of 1,075,500, the second largest of the series. There were four varieties, two featuring the large date and two with the small date, the latter being the slightly scarcer of the two.



An 1812 Large Cent, S-291, R3 Large date grading VF-25
[Enlarge page to 200% in order to view details of coin more clearly]

Both 1812 cents show the large date but a look at the small horizontal bar under the E in ONE on the reverse of the coin directly above demonstrably indicates it's from the same reverse die as the 1811/10 S-286 cent, also far scarier than the S-290 AU-50 example shown above it. While the certified AU version of the S-190 atop the S-191 is a much higher grade and sharper, each coin is attractive in its own way.



An 1813 Classic Head Large Cent, S-292, R2 grading XF-45
[Enlarge page to 200% in order to view details of coin more clearly]

The reported mintage for the 1813 Classic Head cent was 418,000 yet despite the continuing war with England (*which ended with the signing of the Treaty of Ghent on Dec. 24, 1814*) this odd numbered date is more available than either the 1809 or 1811. There were only two varieties. The S-292 shown above is referred to as the "Distant Star" variety because the 7th star near Miss Liberty's tiara is slightly further away from the L in LIBERTY than the S-293 known as the "Closer Star variety". The S-292 is the more common of the two. This specimen was acquired back on March, 1990 at a commercial show northeast of Philadelphia and is one of the nicest examples of the series.



An 1814 cent, S-294, R1 with crosslet 4 in date grading AU-50
[Enlarge page to 200% in order to view details of coin more clearly]

This "beauty" was also acquired at a Regional show outside of Philadelphia two years later in March of 1992 and is the most exceptional of the date set. Despite a lower recorded mintage of 357,830 brought on by virtually no shipments of copper from England due to the still ongoing war, there were enough planchets available for the Mint to strike cents of this date, many which were used directly to pay the Mint employees. There are two known varieties, the crosslet 4 in the date shown directly above and the plain 4 in date appearing just below.



An 1814 Classic Head cent, S-294, R1 with plain 4 graded VF-20
[Enlarge page to 200% in order to view details of coin more clearly]

The 1814 "plain 4" was the final die variety of the Classic Head cent series. While still chocolate-brown, the upper portion of the obverse appears slightly off center and weakly struck. Without the influence of Gerry Kochel's Exhibit highlighting the seven dates of this series, the coins shown and the article about them would probably have never been written. Thanks, Gerry for sharing a part of your collection with us!

**AUGUSTA COIN CLUB, INC.
MINUTES OF MEETING November 16, 2017**

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. at the Sunrise Grill by President, Steve Nix. We had 43 members present.

Secretary's Report:

The October 19, 2017 minutes was not read. A copy is kept on file.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer' Stacey Plooster reported that the club has a balance of \$11,525.04 deposited in the checking account. The monthly expenses were for our coin show.

Prize Winners:

Andrea Price won a 2017 Silver Eagle and Mike Joesbury was the winner of the 2017 Canadian Silver Maple Leaf 1 oz. silver coin. Winner of the 50/50 raffle was Elaine Attaway (\$50.00).

Fall Coin Show Nov 17 & 18, David Chism - Show Chairman.

Our Fall Coin Show will be held at the Columbia County Exhibition Center located at the Grovetown Wal-Mart just off Exit 190 of I-20.. David Chism reported 61 tables sold. We are going to use the larger room. Help is still needed at the front desk and concession stand.

The ANACS Grading Company will be at the show and will appraise coins or take orders for certification. Thus far our exhibitors at our coin show are going to be Bill Orne, Shelby Plooster, Charles White and Col. John Mason. Others wishing to exhibit are welcome, so please sign up for the exhibits. The members were also asked to bring in sweets to sell at our concession stand. We are also looking for someone to take over the concession stand.

Shelby Plooster will conduct a Young Numismatist Program at the show on Saturday, November 18 starting at 12 noon.

Show & Tell:

Jim Barry displayed a 150-50 BC AR *Drachm*, obverse facing head of Helios, reverse helmeted bust of Athena right. Jim also discussed the Mausoleum at Halicarnassus – one of the Seven Wonders of the Ancient World.

Mac Smith displayed an ANACS VF Graded *AE* Dupondius (Rome Mint of Julius Caesar). The coin was dated 49-44 BC era and supposedly valued at \$1,800 dollars.

The Program:

Shelby Plooster (selected by both the ANA and SCNA as Young Numismatist of the Year for 2017) gave a program on the *Journey of Native American US Coins and Currency*.

She started by displaying the Bela Pratt designed Indian \$2.50 & \$5.00 gold pieces followed by the Saint-Gaudens Indian \$10.00 gold eagle to the Sacagawea golden dollars. A few samples in her program were the Buffalo Nickel along with the Gold version, several commemorative coins including the Oregon Trail half dollar, west and journey nickel series, Indian cents and four Native American dollars from 2009. Also included was the 1899 five dollar silver certificate known as the Indian Chief Note.



President Steven Nix presenting Shelby Plooster with a Club Appreciation award for her program on Native American Influences on US Coins and Currency

The 2017 Augusta Medallion

President Steven Nix announced that the 2017 Augusta club medallion has arrived. It features the Old Academy Building of Richmond County and at first hand glance it is another very attractive club memento. Only 75 have been struck, 25 each in Antique Bronze, copper and silver wash. They are priced at be \$12 each, the club's cost.

Old Business:

Three juniors drew from the YN coin box. The members are reminded that our newsletter is no longer being mailed. Hard copies will be made available at our monthly meetings. Make sure we have your email address.

Nominating Committee:

Our new nominating committee chairman Everett Price will be taken nominations for our 2018 Augusta Coin Club officers. As of our Nov. 16 meeting no members announced that they were seeking office for the 2018.fiscal year. Our election will be held at our n December 21 meeting..

New Business:

The membership was reminded to bring finger food & desserts along with refreshments to our December meeting.

Club Monthly Auction:

1st VP Glenn Sanders ran the auction (17 lots). Shelby Plooster and Mike Joesbury delivered the goods as the auction was carried on therefore speeding up the proceedings. The Bids recorder was David Chism.

**Respectively Submitted,
John Thomas Attaway**



Some of the ACC members at November 16 meeting



The 2017 Augusta Coin Club Medallion struck in copper
The original Academy of Richmond County, Augusta, GA

**It's the Holiday Season so why not
Give a numismatic gift for Christmas or
Hanukkah Gelt for Hanukkah**

{Found off the Internet}



Lincoln cent sub-types



Pendent Jewelry type which could also include a 1/10 or 1/4 gold
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**From the ACC Executive Committee
and Board of Directors
To all its members,
Merry Christmas, everyone!**